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Letter dated 22 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the following documents:

(a) A memorandum dated 22 January 2018 on the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process (see annex I);

(b) A timeline of priority actions dated 16 January 2018, agreed to by the Malian parties and endorsed at the twenty-third meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee (see annex II);

(c) The communiqués of the twenty-second and twenty-third meetings of the Agreement Monitoring Committee (see annexes III and IV).

(*Signed*) Issa **Konfourou**
Ambassador and Permanent Representative

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Annex I to the letter dated 22 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Memorandum on the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process, signed on 15 May and finalized on 20 June 2015 at Bamako

Situation in January 2018

I. Introduction

The implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process, signed at Bamako on 15 May and finalized on 20 June 2015, is continuing thanks to the combined efforts of the Malian parties (the Government, the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad and the Platform coalition of armed groups), with the support of the international mediation team.

While achievements or progress have been made in terms of implementing the Agreement, some difficulties or challenges remain, particularly owing to rising insecurity associated with the continuing terrorist threat and drug trafficking.

II. Achievements or progress made in implementing the Agreement

The following are the salient points in the implementation of the Agreement to date.

A. Political and institutional reforms

- The new regions of Taoudénit and Ménaka were operationalized: the governors were appointed and sworn in, and delegated project management agreements were signed for infrastructure repair, construction and outfitting of the general administration of the regions (Governorates, residences and lodgings, annex buildings, and so forth).

To that end, delegated project management agreements were signed on 13 May 2016 between the governors of Taoudénit and Ménaka and the respective managing directors of Agetier, in the amount of 1 billion CFA francs, and Agetipe, for approximately 800 million CFA francs.

- Interim authorities were put in place: Act No. 2016-013 of 10 May 2016 was promulgated, establishing interim authorities following the amendment to the Territorial Units Code; Decree No. 2016-0332/P-RM of 18 May 2016 was adopted; the Entente was signed on 19 June 2016, setting out the arrangements for the implementation of the interim authorities; and 10 decrees were adopted on 14 October 2016 relating to special advisers to the governors and to members of the interim authorities and transitional councils in the northern regions of Mali.

Interim authorities were put in place in Kidal on 28 February 2017, in Ménaka and Gao on 2 March 2017, and in the regions of Timbuktu and Taoudénit on 13 April 2017. Handover ceremonies between the outgoing heads of the regional councils and the heads of the interim authorities were held in Gao and Timbuktu.

In addition, once the interim authorities of Gao, Kidal and Ménaka were in place, training sessions were held for members from 7 to 10 April 2017. Training sessions for the interim authorities of Timbuktu and Taoudénit were held from 17 to 19 May 2017 at the training centre for territorial units.

The interim authorities of Timbuktu and Gao and the transitional councils of Taoudénit and Ménaka are adequately staffed and resourced, and therefore fully operational. As for Kidal, the first phase of the handover between the outgoing regional council and the interim authority took place on Thursday, 12 October 2017, and was followed by the first extraordinary meeting of the interim authority, at which two agenda items were taken up: (a) the operating and investment budget for 2017

and (b) the proposed budget for 2018. The second phase of the handover between the outgoing head of the regional council and the head of the interim authority eventually took place on Monday, 6 November 2017, under the supervision of the governor of the region and in the presence of elected officials, prominent local figures, representatives of the signatory movements (the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad and the Platform), the head of the regional office of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and the heads of local non-governmental organizations.

In addition, premises were found for the transitional councils of Taoudénit and Ménaka.

Lastly, all interim authorities (Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu) and both transitional councils (Taoudénit and Ménaka) developed and adopted priority action plans. The plans were approved by the relevant ministry and submitted to technical and financial partners involved in decentralization efforts on 21 September 2017.

- Key draft laws on decentralization, territorial administration and elections were reviewed, including the Free Administration of Territorial Units Act, the Territorial Units Code, the General Status of Officials of Territorial Units Act and the Special Status of the District of Bamako Act.

The draft laws were approved by the Government at a meeting of the Council of Ministers on Wednesday, 14 June 2017. They were then brought before the National Assembly and adopted on 14 September 2017. However, reservations have been expressed about the content of Act No. 2017-051 of 2 October 2017 (on the Territorial Units Code) and Act No. 2017-052 of 2 October 2017 (on the Free Administration of Territorial Units), which will be addressed during talks among the Malian parties.

- The Constitution of 25 February 1992 is under review: the constitutional review process was undertaken with a view to implementing the provisions of the Agreement regarding the establishment of a second parliamentary chamber, to be known as the Senate.

The new draft Constitution was approved by the Council of Ministers at an extraordinary meeting held on Friday, 10 March 2017, and was then brought before the National Assembly, which adopted it on 3 June 2017, with amendments. A constitutional referendum was due to take place on 9 July 2017, but was postponed. The President of the Republic subsequently decided, on 18 August 2017, to defer the constitutional review in order to achieve broad consensus on the issue.

- Partial commune elections and elections to the councils of the cercles and to the regional councils were scheduled to take place: the electoral college was initially convened for 17 December 2017, but the elections were postponed until April 2018 to allow for additional consultations with the relevant stakeholders. All these elections will be combined and by direct universal suffrage.

- In the light of the observations made by the signatory movements to the Agreement, talks were held among the Malian parties to discuss key legislation related to decentralization (Act No. 2017-051 of 2 October 2017 on the Territorial Units Code and Act No. 2017-052 of 2 October 2017 on the Free Administration of Territorial Units). The talks took place from 15 to 17 December 2017 at the training centre for territorial units and were organized by the Ministry of Decentralization and Local Taxation, with the support of the Office of the High Representative of the President of the Republic for the implementation of the peace agreement, the head of the international mediation team (Embassy of Algeria) and MINUSMA.

By the end of the talks, the Malian parties had reached consensus on all the items for discussion, with the exception of the concept of the chief executive of the regional administration and the order of precedence between State officials and the heads of the executive bodies of the territorial units.

B. Defence and security

- The National Council for Security Sector Reform and its specialized organs, the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, and the Integration Commission, were established on 31 December 2015.
- The heads of the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission and the Integration Commission were appointed at a meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 16 November 2016. The Commissioner for Security Sector Reform was already appointed in March 2016.

All three organizations (the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, the Integration Commission and the National Council for Security Sector Reform) are currently operational and have held their inaugural meetings in order to plan their activities. The regional offices of the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission and the Integration Commission have been established.

- The construction and remodelling of cantonment sites to house ex-combatants is still under way: of the 24 sites identified and approved by MINUSMA, 8 sites, each able to house 750 ex-combatants, are already functional. Following the attack on the Operational Coordination Mechanism camp in Gao on 18 January 2017, MINUSMA put in place security measures at the completed sites.
- Lists of ex-combatants from the signatory movements to the Agreement were submitted for the purposes of: constituting the first units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism in the regions of Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu; cantonment; and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

The first battalion of 600 men from the Operational Coordination Mechanism camp in Gao was constituted and joint patrols began in late February 2017. The number of men in the Gao battalion was increased to 750 to ensure the inclusion of all armed groups. However, the battalion is unable to carry out joint patrols beyond the city of Gao owing to a lack of heavy weapons.

Camp No. 1 in Kidal was vacated by the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad so that it could be refurbished by MINUSMA and used to house the Operational Coordination Mechanism's Kidal battalion. MINUSMA is currently carrying out the remodelling work, which is nearing completion.

- A round table was held with a view to approving the national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme developed by the Government and the signatory movements to the Agreement, with support from the World Bank and MINUSMA. During the round table, held on 8 December 2016 in Bamako and attended by donors to discuss the financing of the reintegration component of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme, partners expressed their commitment to supporting the process.

The total cost of the national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme is $50 million, of which $25 million has been secured ($10 million from the Government and $15 million from the World Bank), leaving a shortfall of $25 million.

- A workshop, held on the operationalization of the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission from 6 to 13 March 2017 in Fana. was attended by the signatory movements to the Agreement, MINUSMA and other partners.

- On 11 May 2017, an inauguration ceremony was held at the former headquarters of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy to mark the start of the activities of the National Council for Security Sector Reform. A training workshop for members of the National Council for Security Sector Reform and its technical bodies was held from 19 to 23 June 2017, with the support of MINUSMA and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs.

- The three organizations (the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, the Integration Commission and the National Council for Security Sector Reform) are currently working on defining and adopting criteria and quotas to ensure the commencement of the cantonment and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes. MINUSMA is providing assistance by holding workshops. Accordingly, the Commission for Security Sector Reform held a strategic planning workshop from 5 to 7 September 2017, and a validation workshop on 10 and 11 October 2017. The workshops covered the following topics: (a) endorsing the operational plan of the Commission; (b) adopting the plan for the preparation of the national security sector reform strategy; (c) adopting the principle to hold a high-level meeting on security sector reform in Mali; and (d) analysing the draft criteria of the Integration Commission before their submission to the National Council for Security Sector Reform for approval.

- The first meeting of the National Council for Security Sector Reform was held on Friday, 27 October 2017, at the Office of the Prime Minister. The meeting was chaired by the Prime Minister, who is Head of the Government, and attended by all the statutory members, including representatives of the signatory movements to the Agreement (the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad and the Platform). The head of the National Council for Security Sector Reform recalled the peace, security and development nexus and called on participants to give thought to developing a new national security and defence vision and establishing criteria, quotas and conditions for the integration of ex-combatants into duly constituted entities of the State, including within the defence and security forces. At the meeting, participants also adopted the draft national strategy on security sector reform and agreed to meet again two weeks later.

- On 2 November 2017 a workshop was held in Bamako to launch the programme for the reintegration of ex-combatants in Mali. The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants, with support from the National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission, and was attended by representatives of the signatory movements to the Agreement and technical and financial partners, including the main donor, the World Bank (specifically, the International Development Association).

The total cost of the national disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme is estimated at $79 million. The programme is divided into two components: (a) disarmament and demobilization and (b) reintegration.

The cost of the disarmament and demobilization component is estimated at $29 million, of which $21 million has already been received through a trust fund managed by MINUSMA.

The programme for the reintegration of ex-combatants in Mali is part of the reintegration component, the estimated cost of which is $50 million. Some

$25 million has already been secured ($15 million from the International Development Association and $10 million from the Government of Mali); other donors will need to be approached to secure the remaining $25 million. The programme will run for 36 months and will focus on roughly 10,000 ex-combatants in two phases, with a regional approach.

- The Integration Commission held a workshop in Bamako on 6 November 2017 with a view to sharing experiences and views and developing a common vision on the reintegration of ex-combatants from the signatory movements to the Agreement into duly constituted entities of the State. The workshop was also intended to consolidate the achievements of the Integration Commission and the Commission for Security Sector Reform, harmonize the visions of the signatories to the Agreement, and set out the steps to be taken to ensure the successful completion of the integration process as a whole.

- An ad hoc committee comprising representatives of the Government and the signatory movements to the Agreement was established to discuss criteria and quotas for the reintegration of ex-combatants: following a meeting held on Tuesday, 14 November 2017 at the Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants, which was chaired by the Minister of Defence and Former Combatants, it was decided that an ad hoc committee should be established, chaired by the High Representative of the President of the Republic for the implementation of the peace agreement, in order to discuss in detail and reach consensus on the proposed criteria and quotas set out in the note prepared jointly by the Integration Commission and the National Commission on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration.

The outcome of the discussions will be transmitted to the Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants and then submitted to the National Council for Security Sector Reform.

Explanatory and consensus-building sessions were held on Thursday, 16, Friday, 17 and Monday, 20 November 2017 at the former headquarters of the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy. The sessions were chaired by the High Representative of the President for the implementation of the peace agreement and attended by the heads of the Integration Commission and the National Commission on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration, the Commissioner for Security Sector Reform, and representatives of the Coordination and the Platform.

During the discussions, the representatives of the Government and the signatory movements to the Agreement considered the following issues:

- The terms of reference of the ad hoc committee
- The concept of "reconstituted armed forces", as mentioned in the Agreement
- The criteria for integration
- Quotas for the number of ex-combatants to be integrated and rehabilitated
- Special measures that the Government could consider taking in order to strengthen the process.

In conclusion, the Malian parties worked hard to resolve the question of criteria and quotas for reintegration, and welcomed the positive atmosphere that had prevailed during the three days of talks, which were chaired by the High Representative of the President for the implementation of the peace agreement. They noted that fruitful consensus had been achieved regarding the criteria for integration, despite the differing positions of the parties at the outset. However, with regard to quotas, further consensus-building efforts were needed, particularly on the question of how many

ex-combatants should be integrated into the security and defence forces and into the public services: the signatory movements to the Agreement felt that the figure should be 14,780, while the Government wanted 4,900.

C. Economic, social and cultural development

- During the interim period 2016–2017, an emergency relief plan was developed and implemented at a total cost of 265.554 billion CFA francs, of which 6.156 billion CFA francs will need to be sought from partners. The plan covers the sectors of education, health and hygiene, food security, hydraulics and energy, displaced persons and refugees. According to the most recent report, which was published on 30 October 2016, approximately 40 per cent of the plan has been implemented.

- A regional development agency was established in each region and planning agreements were signed between the Government and the regional authorities for the completion of structural projects and programmes in the territorial units, with the exception of Taoudénit and Ménaka, where regional development agencies have yet to be established. In the meantime, the regional development agency of Timbuktu is covering the region of Taoudénit, while the agency of Gao is covering Ménaka.

- The International Conference for the Economic Recovery and Development of Mali was held in Paris on 22 October 2015, with the support of the Government of France and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. On the basis of the initial figures released, it is estimated that contributions totalling 2,120 billion CFA francs (€3.2 billion) were pledged at the Conference for the period 2015–2017, including 397 billion CFA francs (€605 million) for the northern regions of Mali.

The commitments made at the International Conference for the Economic Recovery and Development of Mali will be followed up by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, through a support unit set up to implement the Sahel strategy and the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, and by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, through the Aid Harmonization Secretariat.

- A round table was held on 24 and 25 March 2016 to review the infrastructure provisions set out in the Agreement (annex 3 of the Agreement). At the meeting, government representatives and donors, led by the African Development Bank, discussed the financing of infrastructure projects that would open up the northern regions of Mali, and selected 10 projects for implementation: 5 major road projects: (a) Sévaré-Douentza-Hombori-Gao; (b) Koro-Douentza-Timbuktu; (c) Gao-Bourem-Taoussa; (d) Bourem-Anéfis-Kidal-Algerian border; and (e) Ansongo-Ménaka-Andéranboukan-Nigerien border; and 5 major airport projects: (a) the refurbishment of Gao airport; (b) the construction of airport in Kidal; (c) the construction of the airport in Ménaka; (d) the construction of the airport in Taoudénit; and (e) the construction of the airport in Tessalit.

- A national validation workshop on the specific development strategy for the northern regions of Mali was held from 17 to 19 July 2017 in Bamako. National, regional and local stakeholders took part in the workshop, including representatives of State institutions, the Office of the High Representative of the President for the implementation of the peace agreement, ministries, national and regional technical government services, civil society and private sector organizations, territorial units, technical and financial partners and the signatory movements to the Agreement.

Draft legislation on the establishment and management of the sustainable development fund was adopted by the Council of Ministers on Wednesday, 2 August 2017. The next step is for the draft law establishing the fund to be submitted to the National Assembly.

- A concept note on the establishment of the Northern Development Zone was transmitted, through letters Nos. 00088 and 00089/PR-HR of 29 June 2017, to the signatory movements to the Agreement in order to gather their comments and views. They have yet to respond.
- The Ministry of Economy and Finance developed an action plan to transfer 30 per cent of State revenues to the territorial units by 2018. The plan is currently being implemented. In 2015, 11 per cent of revenues were transferred, rising to 24 per cent in 2016.

D. Reconciliation, justice and humanitarian questions

- An action plan for the management of internally displaced persons and refugees was drafted and implemented. The plan envisages, inter alia: developing refugee and internally displaced person sites; distributing basic necessity kits; and providing access to reintegration activities (such as income-generating activities). As at 30 September 2017, 61,089 refugees had been repatriated and had benefited from food-based support. It is estimated that 142,386 refugees remain in neighbouring countries.
- Three tripartite agreements were signed (among the Government, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and host countries) for the return of Malian refugees living in the Niger, Burkina Faso and Mauritania. Arrangements have been made with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for the organized repatriation of refugees, as soon as the conditions are in place. Meanwhile, statutory meetings are regularly held in order to monitor the refugee situation.
- The Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission was further operationalized. Its membership has been increased from 15 to 25 commissioners in order to ensure greater inclusiveness of the relevant actors. The Commission is finalizing the establishment of its offices in the regional capitals (the reconnaissance and awareness-raising mission in Kidal to set up the regional office). The Commission is also continuing to implement its 2016–2018 Action Plan, including by listening to regional victims. To date, the Commission's regional offices have taken over 2,000 statements and documented over 100 victims in need of psychological and medical care. However, persistent insecurity in the northern regions of Mali is considerably slowing down the Commission's work.

In accordance with its mandate, the Commission has also carried out other activities, including two significant thematic studies for which reports have been available since May 2017. These studies are on (a): the root causes of the conflict affecting Mali from 1960 to present day; and (b) promotion of the democratic values of citizenship and diversity in Mali.

- The Conference for National Harmony: the President of the Republic entrusted the holding of the Conference to the Ombudsman of the Republic. Preparatory regional consultations were held from February to March 2017 in all regions and the Bamako district. The Conference for National Harmony itself was held from 27 March to 2 April 2017 in Bamako and addressed the following three main topics: (a) peace; (b) national unity; and (c) national reconciliation. The conclusions and recommendations emanating from the Conference will provide

building blocks for drafting a Charter for Peace, Unity and National Reconciliation, which will be the foundation for coexistence among Malians.

The Chair of the Conference for National Harmony was appointed Chair of the Special Commission in charge of drafting the Charter for Peace, Unity and National Reconciliation and the mapping of land in the Republic of Mali by means of Decree No. 2017-0370/P-RM dated 3 May 2017. This Commission has set up two working groups: the first is entrusted with drafting the Charter and the second with the mapping of land in Mali. Missions have been conducted, both inside and outside the country, to explain the contents of the draft Charter to our compatriots.

The document containing the charter and mapped territories of Mali was submitted to the President of the Republic on 20 June 2017, on the occasion of the second anniversary since the signature of the Agreement was finalized.

- Transitional justice measures have been implemented through the drafting of a national transitional justice policy document that was shared with the signatory movements to the Agreement prior to its adoption by the Government in November 2016.

- Decree No. 2017-2011/PM-RM dated 22 June 2017 established a good offices mission in the regions of Kidal, the Inner Niger Delta and the Niger Bend. The ultimate goal of the mission is to strengthen the presence of the State in Kidal, contribute to stabilizing the central regions and, above all, further consolidate coexistence in Mali. The mission, led by Imam Mahmoud Dicko, has been carrying out its work since June 2017. The visits conducted by the head of the good offices mission to Kidal and the Inner Niger Delta have achieved favourable results. Regional forums were also held in the regions of Ségou and Mopti, respectively in September and November 2017, on the contribution of religious and traditional leaders, among others, to the peace and reconciliation process.

- Ambassador Boubacar Gaoussou Diarra, a retired judge, was appointed focal point of the International Commission of Inquiry by letter No. 725/PM-CAB of 29 December 2017, further to an unnumbered letter dated 20 October 2017 from the Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations.

The focal point's responsibilities include coordinating actions taken by the Malian authorities for the protection of victims and persons providing information to the International Commission of Inquiry. The focal point also ensures follow-up of this coordination with respect to the Commission, MINUSMA and the relevant departments of the United Nations.

III. Main challenges in the implementation of the Agreement

The main challenges in the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali are as follows:

(a) Operationalization of the Operational Coordination Mechanism's battalions in Goa, Kidal and Timbuktu, and the deployment of joint patrols in all northern regions, in order to combat the prevailing insecurity that is slowing down a return to normality;

(b) The establishment and effective functioning of the interim authorities and transitional councils, the return of State administration in all northern regions and the re-establishment of basic social services to conflict affected populations;

(c) Mobilization of the pledges made at the International Conference for the Economic Recovery and Development of Mali, held in Paris on 22 October 2015, for the implementation of the commitments made by the Malian Government under the Agreement;

(d) Realization of, and respect for, the principle of inclusiveness among the signatory movements to the Agreement (the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad and the Platform) in order to minimize contested decisions and measures in the future related to the implementation of various components of the Agreement;

(e) Increased outreach that enables the majority of Malians to take ownership of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali. It is important that Malians forge a genuinely sacred union around the Agreement in order to accelerate its implementation and allow people to reap the dividends of peace;

(f) Maintenance of the international community's exceptional mobilization efforts on behalf of Mali in order to safeguard its unity, territorial integrity and the republican form and secular nature of the State;

(g) The establishment of a reliable and comprehensive information system and database in order archive and build the memory of the process of implementing the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali.

IV. Prospects

The following aspects are important in terms of the prospects for the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali:

(a) The creation of an environment conducive to the implementation of the Agreement, including through the operationalization of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel to support the fight against terrorism, drug trafficking and insecurity;

(b) The expeditious deployment of the Operational Coordination Mechanism and joint patrols in the regions of Kidal and Timbuktu to accelerate the cantonment and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, taking into account the specific concerns of young people in the city of Gao and the central regions of the country;

(c) Actions to make the interim authorities in all northern regions effectively operational and to further strengthen basic social services for the benefit of communities;

(d) The continuation of efforts to restore the State in Kidal. In this regard, it is worth noting the arrival and residence, since 15 October 2017, of the Kidal member of parliament and mayor of the city, accompanied by two heads of the Imghad faction, without clashes or opposition;

(e) Consolidation of the truce signed on 23 August 2017 between the signatory movements to the Agreement (the Coordination des mouvements de l'Azawad and the Platform) and extended by agreement of the parties on 6 September 2017. This truce resulted in the signing, on 20 September, of the document entitled "Commitments", which provides for an immediate, complete and lasting cessation of all forms of hostility between the two movements.

- The direct dialogue between the movements that took place from 5 to 10 October 2017 in Anéfis (Kidal Cercle, Kidal Region) also resulted in the movements beginning to implement the commitments of 20 September, in order to

definitively resolve the inter-communal conflicts that are seriously impeding implementation of the Agreement.

– Accordingly, it was decided to establish a High-level Commission composed of 12 members: 6 from the Coordination and 6 from the Platform. In addition, four working committees were established, namely: (a) the security committee, (b) the justice committee, (c) the political committee and (d) the reconciliation committee. The delegations of the signatory movements are due to meet in Bamako to finalize a consensual timeline with the Government.

– In accordance with the commitments made on 20 September 2017 by the signatory movements, 80 vehicles with armed members of the Platform (Groupe d'autodéfense des Touaregs Imghad et leurs alliés and Mouvement arabe de l'Azawad) returned to the site at Takalott;

(f) Successful completion of the institutional reforms and conclusion of the revision of the Constitution, which transposes the provisions of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali;

(g) Mobilization of the resources pledged and the expertise necessary to implement the commitments made by the Government under the Agreement;

(h) Ongoing implementation of all relevant recommendations of the second high-level meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee, held in Bamako on 10 February 2017. It should be noted that the Agreement Monitoring Committee is holding its statutory meetings on a regular basis;

(i) Implementation of the new mandate of MINUSMA pursuant to Security Council resolution 2364 (2017) adopted on 29 June 2017;

(j) Enforcement of the general regime of targeted sanctions adopted on 5 September 2017 by the Security Council, through its resolution 2374 (2017), against those responsible for obstructing the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, and implementation of the six points from the messages emanating from the Security Council mission to Mali (19–22 October 2017);

(k) Operationalization of the International Commission of Inquiry provided for in article 46 of the Agreement, mandated to investigate all crimes and other serious violations of international law and human rights, in accordance with the guidance provided by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations in his letter of 20 October 2017;

(l) Facilitation of the mission of the Carter Center, which has been appointed as an independent observer to objectively evaluate the status of the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process.

Annex II to the letter dated 22 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Timeline of priority actions agreed by the Malian parties and endorsed by the twenty-third meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee

16 January 2018

Thematic areas	*Goals*	*Measures*	*Time period*	*Responsible authority*
A. Political and institutional matters	(a) Bring the Territorial Units Code and the Free Administration Act into conformity with the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali	1. Finalize discussions among the parties regarding the distribution of authorities between State representatives and the president of the legislative body, and determine the statute of the head of the regional executive office.	22 January–15 February	– Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (focal point) – Ministry of Territorial Units – Signatory movements
		2. Harmonize the name of the regional legislative body and determine its functions.	22 January–15 February	– Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (focal point) – Ministry of Territorial Units – Signatory movements
		3. Expedite consultations among the various parties with a view to establishing, organizing and determining the operating modalities of the municipal or communal police, called "territorial police" in the Agreement.	22 January–15 February	– Ministry of Security and Civil Protection (focal point) – Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants – Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization – Ministry of Territorial Units; Signatory movements

Thematic areas	*Goals*	*Measures*	*Time period*	*Responsible authority*
	(b) Ensure the effective functioning of the interim authorities and transitional councils	1. Establish an operational framework for the interim authorities with priority short- and medium-term actions, including preparing for the elections (revising the voter register, installing polling stations and making them safe, and ensuring the gradual return of refugees).	22 January–15 February	– Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization – Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action – Signatory movements
		2. Provide the interim authorities and transitional councils with the human, technical and financial resources needed to fulfil their mandates.	16 January–20 March	– Ministry of Territorial Units (focal point) – Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization – Ministry of Economy and Finance – Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action – Signatory movements
	(c) Operationalize the territorial units of the newly created regions and cercles	1. Accelerate the process of establishing territorial units for the regions of Ménaka and Taoudénit and the cercles of Almoustarat and Achibogho.	20 January–28 February	– Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (focal point) – Ministry of Territorial Units – Ministry of Economy and Finance – Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action – Signatory movements
B. Defence and security matters	(a) Operationalize the Gao, Kidal and Timbuktu units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism	1. Agree on mechanisms and technical aspects (staff, individual and group equipment, heavy weapons and logistics) for the	22 January–20 February	– Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants (focal point) – Technical Commission on Security

Thematic areas	*Goals*	*Measures*	*Time period*	*Responsible authority*
		operationalization of the Kidal and Timbuktu units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism, and determine a timeline for their gradual deployment.		– Signatory movements – United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).
		2. Strengthen the Gao units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism by providing them with heavy weaponry.	22 January–20 February	– Ministry of Defence and Ex-combatants (focal point) – Technical Commission on Security – Signatory movements; MINUSMA
		3. Decision adopted jointly by the signatory parties, indicating that all arms, including heavy weapons organic to the movements, remain the property of the movements until disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.	15–30 January	– Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants (focal point) – Signatory movements – Technical Commission on Security – MINUSMA
	(b) Determine the existing number of combatants of the signatory movements	1. Provide certified lists of the combatants.	22 January–20 March	– National Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Commission (focal point) – Commission on Integration – Signatory movements – MINUSMA – Technical Commission on Security
	(c) Finalize discussions on the criteria and quotas for integration and continue drafting the	1. Finalize discussions on the criteria and quotas.	22–26 January	– Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants (focal point)

Thematic areas	*Goals*	*Measures*	*Time period*	*Responsible authority*
	strategy for security sector reform (to be done by the Commission for Security Sector Reform)			– Ministry of Civil Service – Political leaders of the signatory movements; – Office of the High Representative
		2. Submit the consensus criteria and quotas for integration to the National Council for Security Sector Reform for approval.	29 January–2 February	Office of the Prime Minister/National Council for Security Sector Reform (focal point)
	(d) Create secure conditions for the upcoming elections	1. Develop and deploy a security system (reconstituted defence and security forces, MINUSMA and signatory movements) to provide security at polling stations.	From 22 January	– Ministry of Territorial Administration (focal point) – Ministry of Security and Civil Protection – Ministry of Defence and Former Combatants – MINUSMA – Signatory movements
		2. Have combatants of the signatory movements not selected for the Operational Coordination Mechanism participate in the security operations for the elections, in a manner to be decided among stakeholders.	From 22 January	– Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (focal point) – Ministry of Solidarity and Humanitarian Action – Ministry of Territorial Units – Ministry of Local Development – Ministry of Economy and Finance
C. Economic, social and cultural development	(a) Establish the Northern Development Zone	1. Convene a consultative meeting with representatives of the signatory movements, the Office of the High	22 January–15 February	– Ministry for the Management of Land and People (focal point)

Thematic areas	*Goals*	*Measures*	*Time period*	*Responsible authority*
		Representative and the interim authorities of the relevant regions to examine the documents, including the concept note already prepared, with a view to determining the arrangements for establishing and implementing the Development Zone.		
D. Follow-up and evaluation	(a) Strengthen the framework of consultations	Provide the Office of the High Representative with senior experts in various fields for implementation of the Agreement.	First quarter of 2018	– Office of the President; – Office of the Prime Minister – Ministry of Economy and Finance – Office of the High Representative – Signatory movements

NB:

- The Malian parties undertake to comply with the timeline adopted and to implement the proposed measures.
- The Malian parties agree that the Office of the High Representative of the President for the implementation of the peace agreement will ensure the follow-up of the implementation of all measures contained in this timeline with respect to the Agreement Monitoring Committee (leader of the mediation team) and MINUSMA.

Annex III to the letter dated 22 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the twenty-second meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee

Bamako, 5 December 2017

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 19, articles 57 to 62, of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process, and with its rules of procedure, the Agreement Monitoring Committee held its twenty-second session on 5 December 2017.

The Committee adopted its agenda, namely: presentations by the Government and the movements on the outcome of their work, including regarding political and institutional matters and issues related to security mechanisms, and reporting by the thematic subcommittees.

The Government informed the Committee of the initiatives undertaken between meetings to accelerate the implementation of the Agreement and noted that, following the postponement of the elections, the Malian parties had decided to establish a road map with a view to resolving their differences on the Territorial Units Code and the Free Administration Act. The Government also indicated that discussions on security sector reform would continue in order for agreement to be reached shortly with the movements, including on integration quotas.

The Committee welcomed the constructive working atmosphere among the Malian parties, which had led to a convergence of views on the issues under discussion. It urged them to convert that momentum into tangible acts in the implementation of the Agreement. The Committee took note of the Government's decision to convene a meeting of all interim authorities in the coming days, in the presence of the signatory movements, in order to define the priority actions of the former. The Committee also encouraged the Government to continue its efforts to ensure the effective functioning of the interim authorities and to accelerate the process of establishing territorial units in the regions of Ménaka and Taoudenni.

The Committee welcomed the inclusion initiatives undertaken by the signatory movements themselves, and also the readiness of the Government to work in the same direction towards a permanent resolution of this issue.

The Committee endorsed the report of the subcommittee for political and institutional matters, and the report of the subcommittee for defence and security. It particularly welcomed the decision of the Malian parties to hold an extraordinary meeting of the Technical Commission on Security in order to determine the arrangements for the immediate operationalization of the Kidal and Timbuktu joint units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism.

In the meantime, with a view to ensuring a more effective dialogue among the signatories to the Agreement, the Malian Government and the movements agreed to future participation by the independent observer, MINUSMA and the leader of the international mediation efforts (Algeria) in meetings of the inter-Malian discussion mechanism, as observers.

Lastly, the Committee regretted the absence of some of its members noted at the twenty-second meeting and urged all stakeholders to remain committed to the mechanism established by the Agreement. In that regard, the Committee decided to communicate the dates of its meetings well in advance so that all its members could make the necessary arrangements to participate fully in its work.

The next meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee will be announced at a later date.

Annex IV to the letter dated 22 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the twenty-third meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee

Bamako, 15–16 January 2018

In accordance with the provisions of chapter 19, articles 57 to 62, of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali emanating from the Algiers process, and with its rules of procedure, the Agreement Monitoring Committee held its twenty-third meeting in Bamako on 15 and 16 January 2018.

The Committee adopted its agenda, namely: presentations by the Government and the movements on the outcome of their work, including regarding political and institutional matters and issues related to security mechanisms; reporting by thematic subcommittees able to hold their statutory meetings; and formalization of the establishment of the independent observer.

The Government informed the Committee of the outcome of the workshop organized in December 2017 by the Malian parties with a view to harmonizing the Territorial Units Code and the Free Administration Act with the provisions of the Peace Agreement. The Committee took note of the outcome and encouraged the parties to continue their discussions in order to resolve outstanding issues, including the question of the chief executive of the region.

With regard to the security mechanisms, in particular operationalization of the units of the Operational Coordination Mechanism in Kidal and Timbuktu, the Committee welcomed the decision of the Malian parties to provide Mechanism units with the necessary equipment, including heavy weaponry, and urged the parties to operationalize that equipment as soon as possible. The Committee also welcomed the progress made on the issue of the criteria and integration quotas for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process.

The Committee welcomed and endorsed the timeline of priority actions agreed by the Malian parties following the inter-Malian discussions held in parallel to the twenty-third meeting.

This timeline is a road map for the implementation of the key provisions of the Agreement, which will support the stabilization of the country and the holding of the elections scheduled for April of next year. The Committee urged the Malian parties to abide by the commitments made and encouraged the international community to lend its support in this regard.

The Committee endorsed the reports of the subcommittees responsible for: (a) political and institutional matters, (b) defence and security and (c) economic, social and cultural development. It welcomed some achievements made in the various areas of implementation of the Agreement, as described in the reports of the above-mentioned subcommittees.

The Committee welcomed the independent observer and reiterated that it would support the implementation of its mandate.

The next meeting of the Agreement Monitoring Committee will take place on 12 and 13 February 2018.

Bamako, 16 January 2018